

Warding Off the Evil Eye and Envy

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WARDING OFF THE EVIL EYE AND ENVY

When you see that which you like, you should take pre-emptive measures to seek the help and protection of Allah from the evil eye. This is pre-emptive, before it happens. This is one of the precautionary measures before anything happens, if you want to seek the aid of Allah in protecting from evil eye. In addition to Dhikr and Qiraa'ah, one of the things is if one presumes they themselves have an evil eye or others, the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam gave us some guidance on that.

When you see for example a beautiful kid, a smart kid, a nice house, a nice car, when there is a significant achievement, you do not want an evil eye to affect anyone so what should be on the tongue of Muslims is what the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam told us. It is not Mashaa Allah (مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ), I repeat, it is not Mashaa Allah. It is not Laa Ilaaha Illallah (لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ), it is not Allahumma Salli 'Ala Muhammad (اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ), it is not Mashaa Allah Laa Quwwata Illa Billah (مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ), and it is not Tabaarak Allah (تَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ). It is none of those. Those are words of praise, they are beautiful. They may be Dhikr and they are good, they are to be used but everything has to be used in its proper time and its proper place. You can use these as Dhikr in your own time, the question is what is used to seek refuge in Allah from an evil eye? What is the term?

You most definitely for example do not knock on wood. You want the proper guidance, the proper medication to seek refuge in Allah from an evil eye or so you yourself will not hurt others. You say Allahumma Baarik Lahu (اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُ) if he is male, may Allah bless him. If she is a woman, Allahumma Baarik Laha (اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهَا), may Allah bless her. If it is a car someone has, Baarak Allahu Laka Feeha (بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لَكَ فِيهَا), may Allah bless it for you. Making Du'aa and blessing for that matter or that person.

The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said the affect of an evil eye is fact. In Bukhari and Muslim:

إِنَّ الْعَيْنَ حَقٌّ

Look at this Hadith. Abu Umaamah narrated on the authority of his father Sahl Ibn Hunayf, they went with the Prophet Muhammad sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam on a journey and they reached to a valley. Sahl washed himself and he actually was handsome and he had soft skin

and a good figure. A man passed by, his name is 'Amr Ibn Rabee'ah, he looked at him as he was bathing and he said wow, what a nice, delicate figure. Just as he uttered that, Sahl fell unconscious. The people went to the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam, the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said who do you suspect? Do you suspect anyone?

مَنْ تَتَّهَمُونَ بِهِ ؟

They said yes, we suspect 'Amr Ibn Rabee'ah. The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said bring 'Amr Ibn Rabee'ah here. They brought him, the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam reprimanded him and sort of scolded him, he said why try to kill your brother in faith? Did he pull a knife on him? No, it is by his eye he was trying to kill him, that is what the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam meant. Why not say upon seeing that which fascinates you from your brother, may Allah bless you, make Du'aa for his Barakah.

إِذَا رَأَى أَحَدُكُمْ مِنْ أَخِيهِ مَا يُعْجِبُهُ فَلْيَدْعُ لَهُ بِالْبَرَكَةِ

This is the point of it. The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said wash off the trace of envy by making Du'aa of Barakah. He did not say you say Mashaa Allah, he did not say you say Laa Ilaaha Illallah. 'Amr (the man who caused the evil eye) was ordered to bathe, wash his elbows, thighs and hands and pour water all over himself, while he was in what would today be called a tub. Then the contents of that tub were poured over Sahl Ibn Hunayf and upon doing that, Sahl recovered. This is an authentic Hadith, it is in Munsad Ahmad and Ibn Maajah. So the one who caused the evil eye was ordered to take a bath, his leftover water was in a tub and that was poured over the one he envied and affected.

This is after it happens, but before that the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said why did you not make Du'aa? What Du'aa did he say? Did he say Mashaa Allah? Did he say Laa Ilaaha Illallah? Did he say make Salah on the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam?

He said:

إِذَا رَأَى أَحَدُكُمْ مِنْ أَخِيهِ مَا يُعْجِبُهُ فَلْيَدْعُ لَهُ بِالْبَرَكَةِ

The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam said to eliminate the affect from your eye, make Du'aa of Barakah for your brother. Say Allahumma Baarik Lahu, may Allah bless him. Allahumma Baarik Laha if she is a woman, may Allah bless her. If it is knowledge, Baarak Allahu Laka Fee 'Ilmik (بارك الله لك في علمك), may Allah bless your knowledge. If it is a car, may Allah bless your car. He did not say, say Mashaa Allah. At this timing he did not say, say Laa Ilaaha Illallah.

Al-Mannaawi said:

يَدْعُ بِالْبَرَكَةِ

You make Du'aa in Barakah, you say may Allah bless him.

Some said what about the verse in the Qur'an:

وَلَوْلَا إِذْ دَخَلْتَ جَنَّتَكَ قُلْتَ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ... ﴿الكهف﴾

﴿٣٩﴾

It was better for you to say, when you entered your garden: 'That which Allah wills (will come to pass)! There is no power but with Allah.' (Surat al-Kahf: 39)

The verse says say Mashaa Allah. This verse has nothing to do with the protection from the evil eye, from the Hasad. It is telling one to admit that which he got is from Allah, to not let his ego and pride get to him and admit it is from Allah. Mashaa Allah Laa Quwwata Illa Billah. So Mashaa Allah means whatever Allah wills and it is good to say it when you see good things, when you see the creation and things you like. Al-Qurtubi said commenting on this verse, he says it means Allah is telling him whatever you got of wealth is from Allah not from your own power. So you cannot use that Du'aa Mashaa Allah for protection from an evil eye. You would be giving knowledge that the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam never gave, you would be giving medicine to something that is for a totally different disease or sickness.

In a nutshell, if you see something you like you make Du'aa of Barakah in it. Allahumma Baarik Lahu, Allahumma Baarik Laha. If you have a child for example and someone said wow he is so beautiful, wow he is speaking at that young age, do not be ashamed to tell him to say Allahumma Baarik Lahu (make Du'aa of Barakah for the child) and the other person should not take offence at it. If you are memorising and gaining knowledge or you have something good going for you, if you have a job or a car and a relative sees it and it may be an evil eye, then tell them make Du'aa in Barakah. Revive a Sunnah that is dead!

In Tirmidhi, Nasaa'ee and Ibn Maajah, the Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam advised when you see newlyweds, to say to them:

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لَكُمَا وَعَلَيْكُمَا ، وَجَمَعَ بَيْنَكُمَا عَلَى خَيْرٍ

May Allah bless you both and blessing be upon you, and unite you together in goodness.

This is precautionary for the evil eye. If you assume someone already has the evil eye and there is proper signs of that, then there is Qur'an, there is proper Dhikr. If you suspect someone in particular, you can ask that person to take a shower and put the leftover water of his shower on someone who you assume he affected. Those are the cures after he is affected. Just like flu, when you do not have flu, you go get a shot for vaccination but you do not get the shot for vaccination after you are infected with flu. So before one is affected with the evil eye, to eliminate it, one of the ways which I mentioned is you say Allahumma Baarik Lahu. It is not Mashaa Allah, even though I know you are saying to me scholars are saying it. It is wrong, Mashaa Allah is not to be said to eliminate evil eye. It was never said in any authentic Hadith that Mashaa Allah is a prevention from evil eye. You see the sky, it is beautiful, you enter your own house and you are not afraid of an evil eye, say Mashaa Allah. However, if you are afraid of an evil eye and you want to prevent it.

فَلْيَدْعُ لَهُ بِالْبَرَكَةِ

Let him ask Allah for Barakah in that person or in any matter that he has which you think is good. Also, you can recite Qur'an as prevention. Now after it falls, if someone is affected, then you have Qur'an and Dhikr. If you know someone in particular, you can ask them to take a shower. He should not take offence to it and once he takes a shower, the person who is affected takes a shower in his leftover water and Inshaa Allah just like the Hadith we mentioned of Sahl, it will be eliminated.

The point of what I mentioned is when you see what you like, it is Allahumma Baarik. It is not Mashaa Allah, it is not Laa Ilaaha Illallah, it is not Allahumma Salli 'Ala Muhammad, it is not Tabaarak Allah. These are good, beautiful phrases but for the protection of evil eye, you ask Allah for Barakah in that matter or in that person.